



KENTUCKY

# General News

October 2008

## General Conway Announces Task Force to Investigate and Prevent Voter Fraud

Attorney General Jack Conway and Secretary of State Trey Grayson are working together with agencies across Kentucky as part of a task force to prevent and investigate allegations of voter fraud during the November 4, 2008 general election.

"We need Kentucky voters to be our eyes on Election Day," General Conway said. "We will have about a dozen investigators from my office patrolling precincts throughout the Commonwealth, but we need citizens to join us to ensure we have a fair election.

The Election Fraud Hotline is 1-800-328-VOTE (800-328-8683). The hotline is available throughout the year during normal business hours. On November 4, calls will be received from 6:00 a.m. EST until 7:00 p.m. EST. The Office of the Attorney General has jurisdiction to investigate and prosecute violations of the Kentucky election laws.

For more information — <http://tinyurl.com/5asowa>



## Conway Sues to Stop State's Inmate Early Release Program

Saying the practice is unconstitutional and puts the public at risk, Attorney General Jack Conway filed suit in Franklin Circuit Court on October 1 to stop the Department of Corrections from continuing the early release of prisoners and parolees, some of whom are dangerous felons.

The state has released more than 3,500 felons from prison and parole supervision since the end of May in an effort to save \$30 million over the next two years.

"I'm not insensitive to the state's budget constraints; however, they are not distinguishing between non-violent and violent offenders. Some dangerous felons have been released early back into Kentucky communities and will continue to be released pursuant to Corrections' illegal retroactive application of language that lawmakers added into the budget at the eleventh hour," General Conway said.



In fact, an investigation by the Courier Journal found that 14% of those freed under the program had been charged with crimes again.

General Conway also cautions that this is not only a public safety issue, but undermines the Truth-in-Sentencing Law and is unconstitutional.

"When juries recommended sentences for these criminals, they had no idea the sentence imposed would be reduced years later," said Conway. A hearing to consider a temporary injunction against the inmate early release program is set for November 10.

For more information — <http://tinyurl.com/6jn87e>



Kentucky Attorney General  
Jack Conway

### Thank You for Your Hard Work!

In light of Kentucky Public Service Recognition Week Oct. 6-12, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the employees in the Office of the Attorney General for their hard work and commitment to helping protect Kentucky families. It is through their dedication and professionalism that we can investigate cybercrimes, elder abuse, Medicaid fraud and prescription drug abuse across the Commonwealth. I am proud of the service our employees provide to Kentuckians and I know you are too.

## New Statewide Partnership Formed to Increase Cybersafety Education

Attorney General Jack Conway, Kentucky Child Now and the Kentucky Department of Education have announced a new partnership that will expand statewide cybersafety education efforts and teach adults to be online models, mentors and monitors.



the real world, but the virtual world as well,” said General Conway, who announced the partnership at Collins Lane Elementary school in Frankfort.

Each agency has independently conducted its own education efforts and training programs to teach students, parents, teachers, law-enforcement officers, and prosecutors about the dangers that exist online. The groups have agreed to coordinate their resources to reach more Kentuckians.

The three-year education initiative kicks off with a statewide conference on November 24 and 25 at the Lexington Downtown Hotel and Conference Center, 369 W. Vine Street. Workshops at the conference will include presentations from MySpace and Facebook. Ernie Allen, executive director of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, will be the keynote speaker.

“Social-networking sites are the new malls for Kentucky kids, and parents must know who their children are socializing with, not just in

For more information on the conference or to register for the event, visit [www.ag.ky.gov](http://www.ag.ky.gov) or [www.kychildnow.org](http://www.kychildnow.org).

### Cybersafety tips for parents

- ▶ Google your children and yourself
- ▶ Keep the computer in a family room or open area
- ▶ Teach your children they should never meet an online friend
- ▶ Watch your children when they are online and see what sites they visit
- ▶ Have your child list you as a friend on MySpace or Facebook

### Chat abbreviations you should know

- ▶ A/S/L — “Age/Sex/Location”
- ▶ PIR — “Parent in Room”
- ▶ POS — “Parent Over Shoulder”
- ▶ NP — “Nosy Parent”

For more information — <http://tinyurl.com/6nog8x>

## Federal Trade Commission Joins Attorney General Gas Probe



The Federal Trade Commission, at the request of General Conway, Governor Steve Beshear, Representative John Yarmuth and Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson, has agreed to review the data the Attorney General’s office has gathered regarding the merger of Ashland and Marathon that took place in the mid 1990s.

Attorney General Conway believes the merger may have created a potentially illegal monopoly in Kentucky’s wholesale petroleum market. Conway says the merger may have resulted in Louisville drivers being overcharged up to 20 cents per gallon, when compared to other regional cities, like Chicago.

The Attorney General’s office has received subpoenaed documents from suppliers and retailers as part of its investigation into the wholesale price of gasoline in Kentucky. The information is currently being reviewed and General Conway will decide whether there is evidence to proceed with a lawsuit in this case.

Meanwhile, documents have been subpoenaed from retailers and wholesalers as the Attorney General continues to investigate allegations of price gouging in the wake of Hurricane Ike. That investigation is ongoing.

## Attorney General Conway Supports National Teen Driver Safety Week

Attorney General Conway is asking the public to join him in helping to keep our teen drivers and our roadways safe. Conway delivered the message as part of National Teen Driver Safety Week October 19-25.

While teens represent only 6% of Kentucky drivers, they account for 19% of all people involved in injury collisions and 13% of those involved in fatal collisions in the state. Driver error or speeding is the leading cause of teen driver crashes. Cell phones, texting, food/beverage consumption, passengers and loud music are also dangerous distractions.

“Youth drivers need to know that the phone call and texting can wait. There is nothing more important than getting from point A to point B safely,” General Conway said.

For more information — <http://tinyurl.com/5eekom>

